

REMARKS

These remarks are submitted in reply to the Office Action dated May 02, 2006. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

I. Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 18 to clarify the microstrip line elements and removed the confusing "additional" language. Further, with regards to the limitation "each capacitively coupled", and whether Applicant is referring to the first and second end, Applicant has added the following language to clarify this limitation as follows:

said microstrip line having first and second ends, said first end capacitively coupled to one of said plurality of resonators and said second end capacitively coupled to a second of said plurality of resonators.

II. In the 10-19-2006 Office Action, claims 16 and 19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 18 to include such limitations and has also amended the claims to remedy the 112 rejection. Should the Examiner believe that the germane limitations in the allowable subject matter set forth in the 10-19-06 office action were not incorporated into claims 1 and 18 or that there are still 112 issues, Applicant welcomes a telephone conference to discuss these issues. If the Examiner no

longer believes the previously written claims 16 and 19 are allowable, Applicant will respond in a subsequent amendment accordingly.

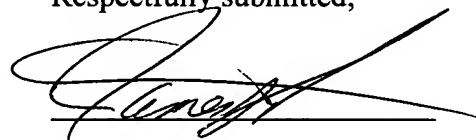
CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of rejections have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.

If the Examiner believes, for any reasons, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the following number: 202-607-4607.

The USPTO is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 502697 any fees associated with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James S. Finn', is written over a horizontal line.

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